



## Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways Commission Meeting NOTES

Wednesday, July 16, 2014, 10 a.m. to Noon

**Location:** History Colorado, 1200 Broadway, Denver CO 80203 (Enter door off of Lincoln)

**Room:** The Stephen H. Hart Library and Research Center classroom

Food is not permitted in classrooms and liquids must be in a spill-proof container.

Conference Call Option (RSVP required): 1-877-820-7831 (passcode 321805#)

### **Commission:**

Chris Sporn, USDA Forest Service (absent)

Margaret Hunt, Colorado Creative Industries (absent)

Georgi Contiguglia, Member at Large (present)

Roger Ben Wilson, Western Byways (present)

Leah Quesenberry, BLM Representative (absent)

Shannon Gifford, Transportation Commission (absent)

Lyn Deal, Eastern Byways (absent)

Greg Yankee, Land Trust Rep (present)

Robert Mutaw, History Colorado (present)

Senator Jeanne Nicholson, State Legislature (present)

Kelly Barbello, Colorado Tourism Office (present)

### **EX-OFFICIO Members:**

Don Hunt, Executive Director of Dept. of Transportation (absent)

Edward Nichols, President, History Colorado (absent)

Mike King, Executive Director of Dept. of Natural Resources (absent)

Stephanie Troller for Reeves Brown, Executive Director of Dept. of Local Affairs (absent)

### **Commission Alternates:**

Charlotte Bumgarner, Gold Belt Tour National Scenic and Historic Byway (absent)

Cynthia Nieb, History Colorado, State Historical Fund/for Edward Nichols (present)

Jack Placchi, BLM/for Leah Quesenberry (present)

### **Colorado Dept. of Transportation:**

Debra Perkins-Smith, CDOT DTD Division Manager (Invited) (absent)

Lenore Bates, Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways Program Manager (present)

### **Agenda**

1. Introductions & Announcements (5 minutes)
  - a. Lenore – 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at South Platte River Trail Sat July 12 1:30

- b. Lenore – 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary along the San Juan Skyway
  - c. (NEW - Pawnee Pioneer Trials Event, Sterling, Sat Sep 20, Pedal the Plains)
  - d. Greg – Rig Grande July 30<sup>th</sup> Event Summer Fundraiser
  - e. Suggestion – Add Byway Events to the CTO site
2. Vice/Co-Chair Updates (5 minutes)
- a. Roger - Vice Chair West Elk Loop Extension – adequate signage & geological features represented
  - b. Senator Nicholson – Traveled along the Los Caminos Anitguos – Several items to mention – No LCA information in Antonito, Byway signs was defaced (will get location), and not sure why Mancos is included (check with byway)
3. National Scenic Byway Foundation Update (5 minutes)
- a. Lenore - Historic Roads Conference Sept 26-28, 2014, Savannah GA
- Pending Nominations (15 minutes) –
4. Durango/Chama Byway -
- a. Roxanne – Meeting in June 2014 was a 3 caravan tour; Chris Spurl at the conference suggested adding Chimney Rock as a spur off the byway; 124.5 miles long with the spur; nomination has been drafted; working on the conceptual plan;
  - b. Q Roger: Who would make up the board (who/what), partners, etc.?
  - c. A Steve: Working on the networking side, we are corresponding with 100 people, identified resources, Durango RR, Cumbres Toltec RR, Navaho State Park, Counties, Chama Village – 9 organizations
  - d. Q Georgi: When do you expect to submit?
  - e. A Roxanne: By the end of this month a nomination and conception, last nomination is Collegiate Peaks, around 35 pages, conceptual plan will give the next steps; Steve: We need more substantial information before moving forward, a Byways Commission Tour possibly on Oct 2-3-4 or Oct 9-10-11, will send out a doodle poll to the Commission to determine next steps
  - f. Q Cynthia: Are you preparing letters of support, a feasibility study, an action plan for PR, how are you going to staff the byway, letter from Lieberman
  - g. Q Roger Cover a variety of topics, including scenic, historic, agritourism, pullouts, etc.
  - h. Q Sen. Nicholson: Can you review the route?
  - i. A Dan: The unpaved road between Dulce and Hwy 151 is drivable most of the time by 2WD, but requires high clearance or 4WD at times
  - j. Q Georgi: make sure your materials state the road type
  - k. Q Roger: Is there a viability of that portion of the byway?
  - l. A Steve: From Dulce to Gato, you can see the RR along this portion of the route, major features of the RR

- m. Q Kelly: Earthen portion is suggested as 4WD?
  - n. A Dan: We recommend that this stretch is improved for safety
  - o. Lenore will review the draft nomination (Also share it with a few Commissioners)
  - p. Q Bob: What about the NM contact?
  - q. A Roxanne & Steve: We have support from NM, but need to see how they will handle this extension, traffic count is 29 vehicles per day.
  - r. Q Roger: Request that a letter of support be added from NM
  - s. A Dan: A letter from this commission could be sent to NM to assist with the NM support/designation
  - t. Dan stated that part of reason the designation is preservation, since some items have been taken. Also gives property owners the ability to direct their future. A major stakeholder is Southern Utes.
  - u. TIMELINE:
    - i. October - Schedule Tour after Doodle Poll
    - ii. Dec 10 - Nomination w/ Conceptual plan
    - iii. Jan 14 – Commission Decision
    - iv. March 19/April 16 – Transportation Commission
5. Cochetopa
- a. Cochetopa letter of intent was submitted in 2011
  - b. Group provided a formal presentation at History Colorado, including a professor from Colorado School of Mines demonstrating the significant geological heritage.
  - c. The tour started at the Visitor Center in Poncha Springs SH285, Villa Grove, Turned onto SH 114, Saguache (Courthouse), Meal at the Buffalo Pass Campground, looped back to SH 50 Monarch Pass back to the visitor center at Poncha Springs.
  - d. Lenore will follow-up with Andrew Archuleta, BLM, on the nomination timeline and nomination/conceptual plan information
6. West Elk Loop Extension
- a. Roger gave some points about the byway
  - b. Lenore handed out an MOU between Marble and West Elk Loop
  - c. Lenore will follow-up with John Hoffman on the timeline for this extension
7. Other
- a. Sen. Nicholson said to consider side trips off of Peak to Peak
    - i. Rollins pass
    - ii. Lincoln Hills – Lenore will add information to web and tagwhat
    - iii. COMMISSION MOTION: To include Lincoln Hills as a feature on Peak to Peak 4.5 miles off the byway – Cynthia 1st Georgi 2nd
8. Conference Debrief (10 minutes)
- a. Main Speakers – goal to inspire byways to organize and seek out private funds

- b. Hokkaido Japan Byways – Will be celebrating their 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary next year. NOTE: Asked if guests from Colorado Byways would attend. More information will follow as they plan this event in the fall of 2015.
  - c. Evaluation
    - i. Stories and comments
    - ii. Economic Impact of that town and what resulted
    - iii. Due July 18, report posted online
  - d. Annual report – effect of conference
9. Commission Website (5 minutes)
- a. Lenore – showed new items that have been added
10. Programs Next Steps: (30 minutes) (Skipped Covered – at an additional meeting scheduled on September 17, 2014, 10 a.m. to Noon)
- a. Strategic Plan
    - i. Criteria
    - ii. Nominations, Conceptual Plan
    - iii. Corridor Management Plan
    - iv. Partnership Values
    - v. Champions
    - vi. Annual Reporting
    - vii. Feasibility/Finance
    - viii. Funding
    - ix. Partnerships
11. Wayfinding Assessments (15 minutes)
- a. Assessment Reports will be posted on the respective byway site
  - b. June 5 – Colorado River Headwaters
  - c. June 6 – Peak to Peak
  - d. June 25 – Cache la Poudre North Park
  - e. June 26 -Trail Ridge
  - f. June 27 – Pawnee Pioneer Trails
  - g. June 30 – Collegiate Peaks
12. Other (15 minutes)
- a. Kelly CTO Grant Program - \$25,000 50/50 match, deadline early Oct
  - b. Cynthia – Oct 1 but review drafts Sep 1
  - c. Suggestion: Add Grant Opportunities on Website
13. Recap & Next Meeting (15 minutes)
- a. Next Meeting September 17, Wed, 10 to noon

**Program Vision:**

Guiding travelers to experience and be inspired by treasured places that comprise Colorado's Scenic and Historic Byways. (Commission Approved 5/14/13)

**Commission Mission:**

The Commission is a partnership to evaluate and designate the state's Scenic and Historic Byways and to develop and recommend funding sources and provide administrative support to sustain the byways for future generations. (Commission Approved 12/7/12)

**Program Definition:**

The Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways program is a statewide partnership intended to provide recreational, educational, and economic benefits to Coloradans and visitors by designating, interpreting, protecting, and promoting a system of outstanding touring routes in Colorado.

**2014 Meetings Dates & Times:**

History Colorado

Tuesday, January 14, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm Heckendorn Library, 3rd Floor

Tuesday, May 13, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm The Stephen H. Hart Library and Research Center classroom

Wednesday, July 16, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm The Stephen H. Hart Library and Research Center classroom

(NEW) Wednesday, September 17, 2014, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The Stephen H. Hart Library

Wednesday, October 22, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm The Stephen H. Hart Library and Research Center classroom

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